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AUSTRIAN INFORMATION

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BIG THREE ANNOUNCE REDUCTION OF AUSTRIAN OCCUPATION BURDEN. During their recent conference at London the Foreign Ministers of the United States, Great Britain and France decided to reduce the burden of occupation on Austria's economy and to strengthen the Vienna Government's overall authority. The Foreign Ministers announced on May 19 that, as a step in that direction, their Governments had resolved to appoint civilian high commissioners in the next few months to take the place of the present military high commissioners. The action was taken in response to a twenty-three-point note submitted by the Austrian Government to the Big Four on March 7, 1950 (see: "Austrian Information", Vol. III, # 4 of March 31, 1950). Whereas this Austrian request for alleviation of the occupation burden received favorable attention by the Western Foreign Ministers, the Soviet Government is unofficially reported to have rejected the demands presented by the Austrian Government.

Following is the text of the Western Foreign Ministers' communiqué on Austria, as published on May 19, 1950:

"The Governments of the United States, the United Kingdom and France reaffirm that their policy with respect to Austria requires the earliest possible completion of an Austrian treaty which will lead to the restoration of a free and independent Austria, in accordance with the pledge given in the Moscow declaration of Nov. 1, 1943, and to the withdrawal of the forces of occupation.

"To this end the three powers are ready at any time to settle without delay all outstanding issues of the treaty provided that this will definitely bring about agreement on the treaty as a whole.

"If, however, the unwillingness of the Soviet Government to settle all outstanding issues continues to prevent the conclusion of the treaty, the occupation will have to be maintained for the present.

"But the three governments are themselves prepared to carry out such measures as may properly be taken to strengthen, within the framework of existing quadripartite agreements, the authority of the Austrian Government and to lighten the burden of the occupation on Austria.

"In accordance with the provisions of Article 9 of the control agreement of June 28, 1946, the three governments have decided to proceed at an early date to the appointment of civilian high commissioners".

NO PROGRESS IN AUSTRIAN TREATY TALKS. The Deputies of the Big Four Foreign Ministers held their 254th Meeting on the Austrian treaty in London on May 22, but adjourned again sine die as no progress could be achieved. Soviet Ambassador Zarubin, who was in the chair, announced that he was not prepared to discuss any of the remaining articles of the treaty until the Western powers had replied to a Soviet note of April 20 on Trieste. The Western deputies protested that the subject of Trieste was beyond their terms of reference and foreign to the whole subject of Austria, and said that they could not accept it as a condition for continuing talks. Finally it was decided that all four deputies would consult their governments.

AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT REJECTS RUSSIAN ACCUSATIONS OF INADEQUATE DEMILITARIZATION AND DENAZIFICATION. Austrian Foreign Minister Karl Gruber reported on the latest developments in the Austrian treaty negotiations to the Council of Ministers at its meeting of May 3. In his report, Dr. Gruber dealt at length with the Soviet demand, made in London at the Big Four Deputies' meeting of April 26, that Article 9 of the treaty draft, upon which agreement had already been reached, be so amended as to place Austria under the obligation to dissolve so-called Fascist-type organizations alleged by the Soviet delegate to exist on her territory and to make their existence and activity subject to criminal prosecution.

In this connection, the Austrian Council of Ministers unanimously stated that the Soviet accusations in London regarding the presumed remilitarization of Austria and the existence of neo-Nazi organizations

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were in no way borne out by the facts. Certain party organs had been waging an anti-Austrian campaign for months, the Government declaration continued, but the assertions made had turned out to be nothing but baseless diffamations. Austria was a nation completely demilitarized, in the fullest sense of the word, and one which was more thoroughly disarmed than any other in the world.

Every attempt to create subversive neo-Nazi cells was being thwarted by the executive branch of the government. In all cases where the guilty could be apprehended and their guilt proven the courts had meted out the harshest sentences permissible under Austrian law. Moreover, Austrian authority was being exercised in accordance with democratic legislation and under the full control of the Allied Council. In view of this state of affairs, the Austrian Government regards any such stipulations in the State Treaty as wholly superfluous.

In addition, the Council of Ministers declared that the Soviet demand, which again calls in question treaty draft agreements that had already been reached, was bound to considerably delay completion of the treaty draft, as a whole and for all these reasons had to be rejected by Austria.

AUSTRIA DECLINES TO PURCHASE FREEDOM AT COST OF POLITICAL CONCESSIONS.

Speaking at a People's Party conference in Vienna on May 16, 1950, Austrian Foreign Minister Dr. Karl Gruber declared that it would be senseless to purchase freedom through the political concessions now being demanded by Moscow. He said approval of such concessions would mean Austria's voluntary acceptance of the role of a Soviet satellite. Therefore, the Austrian Government had unanimously repudiated Soviet allegations to the effect that Austria has failed to comply with her obligations concerning demilitarization and denazification. The encouragement being given in the Russian zone to Adolf Slavik, former Nazi chieftain, and his "National League" shows better than anything else how honest the Soviet campaign against neo-Nazism is, Dr. Gruber remarked. Dr. Gruber denounced in equally strong terms the new Communist propaganda line in which Austria is accused of having violated her neutrality. When the Cominform ideologists speak of neutrality, they do not mean neutrality in the sense in which it is used in international law, but rather a special concept of neutrality, one calculated to weaken us in our defensive struggle against Communism. We should no longer be permitted to declare that we prefer Democracy to People's Democracy, and we should thus be forced to adopt a policy which would mean the moral disarmament of the democratic system. We shall stick to our good old Austrian position in the face of these deceitful demands.

CHANCELLOR FIGL IN ROME. Chancellor Leopold Figl, who arrived in Rome with his wife on May 13 for a personal visit, was received in private audience by Pope Pius XII on May 15, in his capacity as head of the Austrian Government. The Holy Father requested the Austrian Chancellor to convey his special benediction to Austria's President, the Federal Government and the entire Austrian people. In this connection, Pope Pius expressed the wish that the Austrian people's brave struggle for freedom and independence may soon be crowned with success.

On May 17, in the company of at least a thousand Austrian pilgrims, Chancellor Figl attended a festive mass celebrated by Theodore Cardinal Innitzer in St. Peter's Cathedral. During his visit to Rome, the private nature of which was stressed by both the Austrian and Italian press, Dr. Figl was received at the Quirinal by Italian Prime Minister de Gasperi. A number of receptions were held in honor of the Austrian Chancellor, which were attended by all the members of the Italian Government in Rome at the time, prominent figures in public life, distinguished personalities in the business world and dignitaries of the church.

MONSIGNOR FRANZ JACHYM CONSECRATED IN ROME. On May 19 Msgr. Franz Jachym was consecrated Titular Archbishop of Maronea and Coadjutor to Theodore Cardinal Innitzer, Archbishop of Vienna, during a solemn ceremony performed in the Church of Santa Maria dell'Anima in the presence of Austrian Chancellor Leopold Figl, many high church officials and hundreds of Austrian pilgrims. The scruples that had made him feel unworthy of the high office and refuse to assent to his selection had been allayed by the highest ecclesiastical authorities.

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RESULTS OF RECENT MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS IN LOWER AUSTRIA. In the municipal elections that were held on Sunday, May 7, in the province of Lower Austria, which encompasses most of the Soviet zone of occupation, the two democratic parties in the Coalition Government - the Austrian People's Party and the Socialists - maintained and even strengthened their previous position, with the Communist Leftist Bloc obtaining only 5.23% of the total vote and losing control of all city and town councils. These elections were the first municipal elections held in Lower Austria since 1929. Of the total 748,798 ballots cast in the election of 20,740 candidates for seats in the various city, town and village councils, 389,058, or 51.96%, went to the People's Party; 299,323, or 39.97%, to the equally anti-Communist Socialist Party; 39,147, or 5.23%, to the so-called Leftist Bloc (i.e. the Communists); 1,378, or 0.18%, to the Union of Independents; and 19,892, or 2.66%, to a number of splinter groups.

Of the total number of seats, the People's Party won 13,462, the Socialists 6,233, the Communists 307, the Union of Independents 12 and minor non-Communist splinter groups 722.

Compared to the returns in the nationwide parliamentary elections of October 1949, the Socialist Party gained 14,929 votes, whereas the People's Party, the Communist Party and the Union of Independents lost 35,590, 842 and 8,634 votes respectively.

DISSENSION WITHIN THE UNION OF INDEPENDENTS. The enlarged Executive Board of the Union of Independents' (VdU) National Committee voted in its meeting of May 11, 1950, to withdraw recognition from its State Committee in Lower Austria, according to a dispatch appearing in the Wiener Zeitung on the following day. The reason given by the National Committee was that some members of the State Committee had departed from the original VdU program, abandoned the anti-Communist stand and entered into relations with pro-Communist circles. The report also revealed that National Chairman Dr. Herbert Kraus had personally taken charge of the Lower Austrian branch of the party until further notice.

AUSTRIA PROTESTS HUNGARIAN BORDER VIOLATION IN NOTE TO BUDAPEST GOVERNMENT. On April 9, several inhabitants of the Austrian border town of Schattendorf, in the Burgenland, were the target of gunfire from Hungarian territory. The townspeople were in the cemetery behind the church of Schattendorf during the Easter service when the shots were fired at them. Immediately after this border violation was made public, on April 13, the Austrian Legation in Budapest handed a note of protest to the Hungarian Foreign Ministry. The official Wiener Zeitung reported on the same day that after the Federal Government had thoroughly investigated the incident, it had instructed its Legation in Budapest to lodge another formal protest against this violation of Austria's territorial sovereignty and to bring the following facts to the attention of the Hungarian Government:

The present border violation characterized by firing into Austrian territory was by no means an isolated case of territorial transgression. In the course of the last few months there had been many other such cases where Hungarian frontier guards made use of their firearms in areas within Austrian territorial jurisdiction. The Austrian Government therefore reiterated in all urgency the demand it had repeatedly made in past instances that the Hungarian Government issue appropriate and emphatic orders enjoining its border authorities to respect Austrian territory.

The Austrian protest warned the Budapest Government that it would be held fully responsible for all damages that might result from any recurring use of firearms by Hungarian border patrols within Austrian sovereign territory.

Particularly aggravating in the eyes of the Austrian Government was the fact that on the occasion of the last incident the Hungarians used explosive bullets, which represent an especially horrible and inhuman weapon, the use of which can in no way be justified for peacetime border police operations.

RUSSIAN AIR MANEUVERS IN LOWER AUSTRIA. The Arbeiter-Zeitung reported on May 7 that in the course of Russian air maneuvers in Lower Austria during the past few years projectiles have repeatedly fallen on houses and roads located in the vicinity of Russian airfields, causing fear and dismay among the population. In mid-April, a Russian military plane directed gunfire into the town of Wolfpassing, in the Mistelbach district, on two separate occasions. Shortly thereafter, shells fell

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into a farm at Waldegg, in the Piestingtal, as Russian fliers conducted maneuvers above the locality. The report further states that the Communists happened to be holding a rally for the adoption of a "peace resolution" in the town at the time. On May 5, a second incident occurred in the same town of Waldegg: two Russian fliers flew especially low over the town and fired numerous rounds of ammunition into the community. Some of the projectiles fell within very close range of farm houses.

FORCED EXPLOITATION OF AUSTRIAN OIL FIELDS BY THE RUSSIANS. As a result of last fall's production decline at the Zisterdorf oil fields, the Soviet Petroleum Administration has ordered a series of new drillings, according to a dispatch to the Socialist News Service. New turning lathes and a considerable number of boring rods have already arrived from Eastern Germany and Czechoslovakia. The number of well-sinking installations in the Zisterdorf area are to be increased from 7 to 35. The report further reveals that the Russians have also begun sinking wells at the Bruenner Road, in the Wolkersdorf Woods area, and near Duernkrut. Between Matzen and Schoenkirchen, in Lower Austria, new borings are being made in 22 locations; seven of these are well-sinking operations. Last year's production decrease was also the result of a shortage of trained personnel. Agents of the Soviet Petroleum Administration have therefore been conducting an intense recruiting campaign in their efforts to obtain highly qualified workers and engineers. Austrian oil circles are of the opinion that the Russians are trying to achieve the record output of 1.2 million tons which the Germans reached in 1944. Since the experimental drillings in the Burgenland have so far yielded only gas, the Russians are believed to be concentrating their main efforts in the Zisterdorf area. Approximately one half of the estimated 920,000 tons of oil derived from the Zisterdorf fields last year was exported abroad. Austria did not receive a cent from these oil exports valued at about 28 million dollars.

AMERICANS EASE BORDER CONTROLS AT THE ENNS ZONAL DEMARCATION LINE. On April 21, the Austrian Government addressed identical notes to the American and Soviet High Commissioners in Austria protesting against the not inconsiderable train delays caused by protracted documentary and other controls at the Enns demarcation line (border between the American and Russian zones of occupation). In reply to the note, U.S. High Commissioner Lt. Gen. Keyes revealed on May 11 that American authorities were easing the situation by limiting border controls to only those international and other passenger trains that were East-bound from Enns to Vienna. Moreover, U.S. controls would henceforth be carried out on the train itself during the run between Linz and Enns, in order to avoid the necessity of stopping trains at the demarcation line. West-bound trains will no longer be subject to U.S. control, except in extraordinary circumstances. The control of freight trains in the U.S. zone has already been discontinued, although U.S. Headquarters continue to retain the right to effect periodic checks if necessary.

AUSTRIAN PRISONERS OF WAR IN YUGOSLAVIA TO BE RELEASED; FATE OF THOSE IN RUSSIA UNCERTAIN. The Yugoslav Government recently advised Austria's diplomatic representative in Belgrade that it had decided to release at once or in the very near future a majority of the 154 Austrian prisoners of war in Yugoslavia who have in the last few years been condemned to prison terms by the Yugoslav authorities. According to a Socialist Press Agency dispatch, 76 of these 154 Austrian prisoners of war have already been released. In addition to those serving prison sentences, there are some 215 Austrians in Yugoslavia who have signed working contracts of several years duration with the Belgrade Government and are therefore not considered as prisoners of war.

The fate of the estimated 5,000 Austrian prisoners of war in Russia, on the other hand, continues to be shrouded in mystery. The situation has been deteriorating since October, 1949, when the Russians suddenly put a stop to the exchange of letters between these prisoners of war and their relatives; prior to that date, mail had been received from them quite regularly. Subsequently it became known that criminal action was pending against a large number of Austrian prisoners of war in the Soviet Union and that Austrian prisoners of war were often being sentenced to several years of jail for such minor

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infractions as, for example, the theft of a few pounds of potatoes. In March the Austrian Government handed Russian diplomatic representatives a formal note requesting information on the number, name and sentences of Austrians in Russia, but no reply has yet been received.

DEATH OF AUSTRIAN FARM LEADER. Josef Reither, former Austrian Minister of Agriculture and for many years Governor of Lower Austria, died from a stroke on April 30 at the age of 70 in Tulln, Lower Austria. Josef Reither, a member of the Austrian People's Party, had gained national renown for his work in organizing the farmers of Lower Austria and in improving the economic and social standing of the Austrian farmer in general. In 1938 the Nazis dismissed him from his post as governor of Lower Austria and between 1938 and 1945 he was repeatedly arrested and interned in concentration camps for his anti-Nazi attitude. In 1945 he again became governor of Lower Austria, retaining this position until the spring of 1949.

MONUMENT TO THREE VIENNA RESISTANCE FIGHTERS. On April 30 a memorial to three outstanding Austrian resistance fighters - Major Biedermann, Captain Huth and Lieutenant Raschke - was unveiled at the Hietzing cemetery in Vienna. These three officers had been leaders of a resistance group within the Vienna garrison of the Wehrmacht, which proved especially effective during the fighting for Vienna in April 1945. It was thanks to this group that much greater destruction to the city could be prevented. Shortly before the arrival of the Red Army the three officers were denounced and hanged by the Nazis.

AUSTRIA RECOGNIZES REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA. The Austrian Government has adopted a proposal by Foreign Minister Gruber to grant de jure recognition to the Republic of Indonesia. Diplomatic relations are to be established in the near future.

NEW BRAZILIAN MINISTER IN VIENNA. The new Brazilian minister in Vienna, Roberto Mendes Gonçalves, presented his credentials to President Renner on May 12.

PAY INCREASES GRANTED TO AUSTRIAN CIVIL SERVICE EMPLOYEES. An agreement was reached on the wage demands of federal, state and municipal employees, after months of negotiations between Austrian civil servants unions and financial authorities of the federal, state and city administrations. Despite the several cost-of-living bonuses granted during the past few years, the salaries of Austrian public servants have trailed far behind the general increase in the cost of living, particularly in the middle and higher civil service grades. The new wage settlement provides for an 8 to 17% raise in the salaries of public administration employees and will represent an increase of about 560 million schillings in the personnel expenditures of the federal, state and municipal administrations. Individual basic pay will be 75% higher than in 1945. The bonuses granted since the war will be discontinued and replaced by a fixed monthly bonus of 276 schillings for all categories of employees. The net result is a 7.8% increase for civil servants in the lowest classification and a 16.9% increase for those in the highest category. The new wage agreement represents a departure from the previous policy of levelling high and low salaries. It does, however, guarantee the lowest grades a minimum salary of 600 schillings (formerly 535 schillings). The same increases will also apply to the pensions of retired public employees.

ELECTIONS IN THE VIENNA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE. In the elections of the Vienna Chamber of Commerce held on May 6 and 7, the Austrian Economic League (Oesterreichischer Wirtschaftsbund), affiliated with the People's Party, won 73.6% of the vote in the commerce division (Sektion Handel). The trade organization close to the Socialist Party received 13.5% of the vote; the "Reichsorganisation Oesterreichischer Kaufleute", an independent rightist association of Austrian businessmen, obtained 7.1% and 12 splinter groups shared the remainder of the vote. Of the 640 seats in the commerce division of the Vienna Chamber of Commerce, 502 went to the Austrian Economic League, 79 to the Socialist organization and 19 to the "Reichsorganisation Oesterreichischer Kaufleute".

In the artisan and small business division (Sektion Gewerbe), the elections resulted in the following distribution of the 785 available seats: 553 went to the Austrian Economic League, 188 to the Socialist organization, 11 to the list of candidates representing small business

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people and 33 to various splinter groups. The Austrian Economic League polled 67% of the total vote, the Socialist candidates 26%, the small business representatives 3% and a number of smaller slates 4%.

NEW RELEASE FROM ERP COUNTERPART FUNDS. On May 19, Mr. Clyde N. King, Head of the ECA Mission in Austria, announced that the Economic Cooperation Administration in Washington had approved the release of another 500 million schillings from counterpart funds for financing large-scale investments in Austrian agriculture and industry. A considerable part of these 500 million schillings will be used for Austrian export industries (timber, paper, textiles, etc.) and the tourist trade, the development of which is expected to have a favorable influence on the Austrian balance of payment. An amount of 350 million schillings had been released from ECA counterpart funds on April 8, the total for 1950 now reaching 950 million schillings.

In the fourth quarter of 1949, the ECA granted two releases from counterpart funds: 388 million schillings on October 26, 1949, and 350 million on December 8, 1949. From these funds, the coal mining industry received 2.7%, the power industry 9.5%, the basic iron industry 3.2% and other industries 12.2%. Moreover, 55.6% were allotted to the railroads, the postal service and the federal budget (public buildings, roads, bridges, state enterprises etc.) The remainder was appropriated for special programs.

ECA AUTHORIZES NEW RAIL AND STRUCTURAL STEEL MILL IN AUSTRIA. Installation of a new rail and structural steel mill at Donawitz, Austria, for the Alpin Montan Company has been approved by the Economic Cooperation Administration, it was recently announced in Washington and Vienna. The purpose of the project is to substitute efficient rolling equipment, which can adequately handle a larger tonnage of finished stock, for out-of-date equipment originally installed in 1897, which is subject to frequent breakdowns. Two outmoded mills will be dismantled and scrapped. Over-all cost of the project is the equivalent of \$6,080,000, including \$4,120,000 in ECA assistance funds for the purchase of special mechanical and electrical equipment in the United States.

The annual output from the new mill, estimated at 150,000 metric tons, will be divided between 127,000 metric tons for domestic use and 23,000 tons for export. Most important Austrian users of the output are expected to be railroad and streetcar companies, car and locomotive manufacturers, and bridge and other construction firms.

In April ECA approved a project for the purchase of a new blooming mill with a monthly capacity of 40,000 tons. In May it approved a new continuous billet mill.

The Alpin Montan Company (Oesterreichische Alpin-Montangesellschaft) was founded in 1881. Its Donawitz plant is the largest integrated steel works in Austria.

LARGE-SCALE LAND RECLAMATION PROJECTS IN AUSTRIA. Large-scale land reclamation projects are now being carried out in various parts of Austria, which, when completed, will have reclaimed 650,000 hectares of fertile soil (1 hectare = 2.47 acres), by extensive drainage and irrigation. The reclaimed area, which in Lower Austria alone will encompass 150,000 hectares, is described by land reclamation specialists as "Austria's Tenth Federal State". The program will require considerable funds, most of which are expected to be released from the ERP Counterpart Fund. To date, the sum of 4.1 million schillings per year has already been earmarked for drainage and irrigation projects, which will be expedited, moreover, by the delivery of special American machinery. The latter equipment primarily includes drainage-ditch dredges and special dipper or bucket dredges, several of which have already been put into operation. The so-called Buckeye drainage-ditch dredging machine, a special American dredge for fraising ditches for drainpipes, has proven especially suitable for this work. A single such machine can help to drain about 400 hectares of land per year, with the excavation of 600 to 700 meters of drainage veins.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF AUSTRIAN INDUSTRY IN 1949. Austria's production index rose from 104.6% in November, 1948, to 136.8% in November, 1949, according to a report on the development of the country's industry in 1949 recently released by the Industry Division of the Austrian Chamber of Commerce. In September, 1948, twenty industrial fields counted 4372 plants with an aggregate payroll of 377,077 workers and employees;

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in September, 1949, the number of employed rose to 434,093, or an increase of 15.12%, although the number of individual plants decreased to 4354. During the same period the number of manhours of work increased from 61.23 to 71.60 million, i.e. an increase of 10.37 million hours. The average working week lengthened from 45.5 to 47.3 hours. These figures show that even though conditions varied from one field of production to the other, the general increase in the number of man-hours worked was far greater than the rise in the number of workers, thus revealing a not inconsiderable intensification in overall productivity. A similarly gratifying development in the efforts of Austrian industry to improve its conditions of production was the greater use made of the productive capacity of individual plants. Thus, for example, the number of plants operating at only 25% capacity, or less, dropped from 836 to 484 and the number of those operating at up to 50% capacity fell from 1499 to 1341. On the other hand, plants with a higher than 50% operating capacity considerably increased in number. Those using half to three quarters of their capacity increased from 1036 to 1123; the number of those operating at two thirds capacity, or more, rose from 559 to 768; and, finally, those operating at full capacity increased from 442 to 638.

PRODUCTION AT THE STEYR-DAIMLER-PUCH CORPORATION. On the occasion of the screening of a new documentary film of the Steyr-Daimler-Puch automotive works, the corporation revealed to the press interesting facts about the reconstruction of its Steyr and Graz plants and their increased production since 1945. Since the end of the war, the Steyr and Graz plants have produced 10 million ball and roller bearings, 1,2 million freewheel hubs, 360,000 bicycles, 40,000 motorcycles, 10,000 Diesel tractors, 4,100 trucks and 2,000 Steyr-Fiat passenger cars. At the present time the plants have 11,000 workers and employees on their payroll. Thanks to these production achievements, Austria's automotive and ball-bearing industry, already famous for the quality of its products, has been able to extend its markets to such overseas areas as South America, Africa, Australia, India and Pakistan.

PRODUCTION OF MODERN ELECTRIC MOTORS IN STYRIA. The Deuchendorf plant near Kapfenberg, in Styria, started production of an especially efficient electric motor more than six months ago thanks to ECA credits and special American machine tools. This motor, known under the trade name of "Alpenmotor", is protected by several Austrian patents. Its construction embodies 50 years of experience in the field of three-phase motors and reflects many improvements over other European motors of the same type. The Deuchendorf plant has been re-equipped for modern assembly-line production and is now turning out an average of 60 such motors a day. By the end of 1949, two thousand "Alpenmotors" had already been delivered. This output was made possible by ERP-financed modern machinery, 80% of which is of American origin. The Deuchendorf plant is operated by the "Oesterreichische Elektroindustrie Gesellschaft m.b.H." (Austrian Electrical Industry Company, Ltd.), a Government enterprise whose entire stock is owned by the Austrian State.

1949 OUTPUT OF AUSTRIAN GLASS INDUSTRY. Austria's Glass production was 10% higher in 1949 than in the previous year, with a total output valued at 350 million schillings. The glass industry employs 9,000 workers, or approximately 3,000 more than before the war. Austrian glass works are operating at about 80% capacity.

160,000 RADIOS PRODUCED IN AUSTRIA SINCE THE END OF THE WAR. Since the end of the war Austria's radio industry has produced approximately 160,000 radio sets of 40 different types. Although production only got under way in 1946 and 1947, the industry had already exceeded prewar production capacity by 1949. During the past ten years the number of radio listeners in Austria has increased from 650,000 to 1,100,000. Now that the domestic demand for radio receivers has largely been satisfied, the industry's efforts are more particularly directed toward export markets. Before the war 25 to 30% of the annual output was exported, whereas in 1949 only approximately 10% of the industry's production is estimated to have been sent abroad.

AUSTRIAN CIGARETTE PRODUCTION REACHES RECORD LEVELS. Since 1947, when Austrian cigarette production was resumed with a monthly output of approximately 271 million cigarettes, there has been a steady increase in cigarette production. In March of this year 595,399,000 cigarettes

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were produced, a figure far in excess of the prewar (1937) output which amounted to a monthly average of 437,200,000 cigarettes. By the end of March, Austria had received under the Marshall Plan 5,845 metric tons of leaf tobacco worth \$4,437,547. Counterpart fund releases for ERP tobacco deliveries up to that date amounted to \$5,982,771.

AUSTRIAN FOREIGN TRADE FIGURES FOR MARCH. According to incomplete figures released by the Austrian Central Office of Statistics, Austrian imports increased from 544 million schillings in February to 658 million schillings in March; exports increased from 404 to 498 million schillings and the country's negative foreign trade balance from 140 million schillings (February) to 160 million schillings. Commodities imported under the European Recovery Program are not included in these figures.

AUSTRIAN LUMBER EXPORTS. Austrian exports of coniferous cut timber reached their highest monthly volume since the end of the war, with the export of 10,785 carloads in March of this year. During the first quarter of 1950 a total of 426,282 cubic meters of coniferous cut timber was exported, an amount double that of last year's exports during the same period. Nearly half of this amount, namely 206,798 cubic meters, was purchased by Italy.

EXPORT PROGRAM OF AUSTRIAN SALT MINES. In 1949, Austria's salt mines produced 76,000 tons of salt, which represents a slight decline compared to the previous year's output (83,000 tons). Of this amount, 2,400 tons were exported to Czechoslovakia (3,800 tons in 1948), 1,000 tons to Yugoslavia and 1,700 tons to Hungary. The export program for 1950, however, is expected to be considerably more favorable and is likely to approach the annual prewar figure of 10,000 to 15,000 tons. The trade agreement with Yugoslavia calls for deliveries of 10,000 tons and, by May of this year, 4,500 tons had already been exported to Czechoslovakia. Austria is also negotiating with Italy and England for the export of salt to those countries.

NEW AUSTRIAN TWENTY GROSCHEN COINS TO BE PLACED INTO CIRCULATION. The Austrian Ministry of Finance will shortly release new 20 groschen coins made of an aluminum bronze in order to distinguish them in color from other coins already in circulation. The new mintage, which has been authorized by an act of parliament, will be recoined from former German five and ten pfennig coins. At the present time there are more than 100 million ten groschen coins in circulation. This amount will tend to decrease as the need for 10 groschen pieces declines following the introduction of the new 20 groschen coins.

FURTHER DECREASE IN AUSTRIAN UNEMPLOYMENT. Unemployment in Austria has decreased by nearly 20% since the end of March. On March 31 the total number of unemployed was 147,722 and by April 30 it had dropped to only 119,635. Nearly 76,000 persons have been able to find work since the unemployment peak on February 15. This represents an overall decrease of 39%, mostly the result of increased public and private building activity.

AUSTRIAN FEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS HAS TOTAL MEMBERSHIP OF 1,279,520. As of December 31, 1949, the sixteen trade unions of the Austrian Federation of Trade Unions had a total membership of 1,279,520. This represented an increase of 834 over the previous year's membership of 1,278,686. Of the 1949 total, 943,577, or 73.7%, were men and 335,943, or 26.3%, were women. The strongest single union within the A.F.T.U. is the Metal and Mine Workers Union with a membership of 200,787. Eight unions have less than 100,000 workers, the smallest being the Restaurant and Hotel Workers Union which has 20,297 members.

AUSTRIAN TRADE UNIONS OPERATE SPECIAL SOUND TRUCK IN OUTLYING AREAS. To establish and maintain direct contact with its members in remote villages and valleys of Austria, the Austrian Federation of Trade Unions has built a special truck and trailer containing equipment for the projection of regular and 16 mm. films, loudspeakers for playing records and magnetic wire recordings, and searchlights for open-air performances which can, if desired, be staged in two localities at the same time. The truck has side-window displays of union literature and books and its rear window is of frosted glass for the projection of 16mm. films from within the truck. Truck and trailer are painted red and have a silver top.

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CENSUS IN AUSTRIA. The Austrian Ministry of the Interior has introduced a parliamentary bill to authorize a nationwide census to be taken in the period between January 1 and June 30, 1951. The last national census in Austria was taken in 1934.

APARTMENT EXCHANGE IN VIENNA. The continuing housing shortage in Vienna is forcing many people to try to solve their housing problems by means of apartment exchanges. The Municipality of Vienna has therefore established a special apartment exchange, through which 8,400 apartments were exchanged in 1947, 9,563 in 1948, 10,091 in 1949 and 1,778 during the first quarter of 1950. This represents a total of about 30,000 apartments exchanged over a period of three years and three months.

SUBSIDY OF 300,000 SCHILLINGS GRANTED FOR POPULAR EDUCATION IN VIENNA. The Senate of the City of Vienna has granted a 300,000 schilling subsidy to the Association of Popular Education in Vienna for the year 1950. The funds are to be used for the expansion of the People's Universities and other popular education needs in Vienna.

1949 SURVEY OF BROADCASTING ACTIVITIES AT VIENNA'S RADIO STATION. The two RAVAG transmitters, Vienna I and Vienna II, broadcast a total of 10,276 hours during 1949, according to a recent report on the network's activities during that year. A breakdown of the program schedules shows that 52.2% of the total broadcast time were devoted to the transmission of music, 8.7% to science programs, 6.3% to literary programs (theatrical presentations and lectures), 6.3% to news broadcasts, 0.7% to on-the spot news reports, 0.9% to sports programs, 2.8% to educational programs and 1.1% to advertising. The so-called "Russian hour", the propaganda broadcast produced by the Soviet authorities in Vienna, took up 6.3% of total broadcast time. Of the 5,362 music broadcast hours, about 1,310 were devoted to serious and 3,553 to light music. A total of no less than 439 hours were dedicated to operatic music, including 37 "live" opera transmissions from the Vienna State Opera, the Salzburg Festivals and the Scala of Milan. Symphonic music occupied second place, with 257 broadcast hours; chamber music broadcasts totalled some 76 hours, liturgical music and masses about 96 hours and solo recitals 276 hours. In the field of light music, 2,022 hours were filled with so-called entertainment music, 543 hours with dance and film music and 326 hours with operetta music.

VIENNA BACH FESTIVAL TO BE BROADCAST. The Vienna Bach Festival to be held from June 1 through June 15, 1950, will be broadcast by the following European radio networks: Suedwest (Baden-Baden), Institut National Belge de Radiodiffusion (Brussels), Nederlandsche Radio Unie (Hilversum), Schweizerische Rundspruchgesellschaft (Lausanne) and the British Broadcasting Corporation (London).

GUEST TOURS OF AUSTRIAN STATE THEATRES. The Vienna State Opera Company gave a number of extremely successful guest performances in Brussels during the last week of May. The program included Mozart's Don Giovanni, The Marriage of Figaro, The Abduction from the Seraglio and - performed by the company for the first time abroad - The Magic Flute. The productions were under the musical direction of Professor Josef Krips. Ljuba Welitsch and Paul Schöffler, both members of the Vienna State Opera, participated.

The Vienna Burgtheater has been invited to give a guest performance in Cologne in July of this year.

PAUL HENREID IN VIENNA. Austrian-born film star and motion picture producer Paul Henreid arrived in Vienna in mid-May to complete arrangements for the film he plans to make in Salzburg and Vienna this summer. "Austria offers wonderful and as yet unexploited working facilities for the production of motion pictures," Mr. Henreid declared. "Carol Reed proved this to the international public in his 'Third Man', but his work reflected only the seamier and darker side, whereas I should like to show Austria in a better, and, in my opinion, more faithful light." Mr. Henreid's forthcoming film, in which he will play the leading role, will feature both American and Austrian actors. It will be prepared in two versions, and the same cast will appear in both. This means that the Americans in the film will also have to speak their lines in German, since producer Henreid wishes to use the same cast of characters in the English as well as the German version.

5/29/50

AUSTRIAN INFORMATION-10

VIENNA FIRE DEPARTMENT EXPERIMENTING WITH ALUMINUM-COATED SUITS. The Vienna Fire Department recently completed successful experiments with a new type of fire-fighting suit made of special heat-resistant material. This material, which consists of a specially impregnated textile base covered with a very thin coat of aluminum, is the invention of Friedrich Lin, of St. Florian, in Upper Austria. This metal surface reflects heat rays in somewhat the same manner as a mirror reflects light rays. Heat measurements have shown that at a temperature of 800 to 900 degrees centigrade the air enclosed within the new heat-resistant material heated up to only 50 to 60 degrees.

NEW CHAIRMAN PROPOSED FOR DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY AND NEUROLOGY AT THE CLINIC OF THE UNIVERSITY OF VIENNA. The faculty board of the University of Vienna's School of Medicine has unanimously proposed the appointment of Prof. Hans Hoff, Director of the Department of Neurology and Chief Psychiatrist at the Rosenhügel mental institution, to succeed Prof. Otto Kauders, who died in the summer of 1949, as Chairman of the Department of Psychiatry and Neurology at the Clinic of the University of Vienna. Prof. Hoff, who like his predecessors Toetzel and Kauders is a pupil of the famous Austrian psychiatrist Wagner-Jauregg, has had extensive international teaching experience. In 1938 he went to the Middle East as a representative of the Vienna school of psychiatry at the invitation of the Iraq Government, and taught at the University of Bagdad. Several years later he came to the United States where he received a teaching appointment at Columbia University. Prof. Hoff's latest two scientific publications deal with the problems of modern psychotherapy and with sciatica.

INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL CONVENTION TO BE HELD IN SALZBURG THIS FALL. An international medical convention, organized by the Van Swieten Society (Austrian medical association), will be held in Salzburg from September 7 to the 9th as part of the Austrian Medical Congress. The main theme of the scientific meeting will be "The Sympathetic Nervous System and its Relation to the Incidence of Disease". Papers will be read by the following medical authorities on the subjects indicated:

Dr. Mark, of Rostock, will speak on "The Sympathetic Nervous System inner Secretion and Metabolism"; Dr. Siedek, of Vienna, on "The Sympathetic Nervous System and Pathological Circulatory Reactions"; Prof. Hoff, of Vienna, on "The Pathology of the Hypothalamus"; and Prof. Sunder-Plassmann, of Muenster, on "The Sympathetic Nervous System as an Avenue of Surgical Treatment". In addition, reports will be presented on the following topics: (1) "New disclosures in the Physiology of the Human Heart" by Prof. Bing, of Baltimore; (2) "Ischialgia and its Relation to Meniscitis" by Prof. Erlacher, of Vienna; and (3) "Cyclic Disturbances and their Treatment" by Prof. Antoine, of Vienna. A number of special lectures, not to exceed 15 minutes each, will also be given. These may deal only with unpublished scientific investigations and discoveries but are not restricted to any specific field of medical research. The topics of these lectures must be communicated to the society by June 30 at the latest. American physicians and scientists interested in participating in the Salzburg convention are requested to communicate with the secretariat of the Van Swieten Society, Landeskrankenhaus, Salzburg, Austria, at an early date.

POLITICAL ECONOMISTS TO MEET IN BAD ISCHL. The congress of political economy to be held in the famous Austrian summer resort of Bad Ischl from August 21 to the 27th will also be open to foreign economists and students of economics. The congress will be under the direction of Dr. Ernst Lagler, noted political economist of the University of Vienna, and is being organized by the Political Economy Association of Upper Austria. A number of distinguished Austrian and foreign authorities will deliver lectures at the congress. They include Prof. Goetz-Briefs, of Washington; Prof. Hans Ritschl, of Hamburg; Prof. Zwiedinek-Sudenhorst, of Munich; Prof. Adolf Guttersohn, of Bern; Prof. Hans Juergen Seraphim, of Muenster; Prof. Wilhelm Taucher, of Graz; Prof. August Knoll, of Vienna; and Prof. Theodor Pütz, of Innsbruck. Dr. Eugen Margaretha, Austrian Minister of Finance, and Dr. Felix Hurdes, Austrian Minister of Education, have also agreed to address the convention. The first two days of the congress will be devoted to the topic of "Shifts in the Socialist and Capitalist Forms of Economy", and the remainder of the congress will deal with specific problems of European and Austrian political economy. The cost of attendance is 120 schillings (about \$5.00), with room and full board estimated at 280 schillings (about

\$11.00) per week. The congress will be followed by a collective visit to the Salzburg Festival. Applications should be sent to the secretariat of the "Wirtschaftswissenschaftliche Tagung" (Congress of Political Economy), Promenade 37, Linz, Upper Austria, by July 1, 1950, at the latest.

SUMMER SCHOOL COURSES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF VIENNA. So many registrations have already been received from all parts of the world for the summer school courses given by the University of Vienna at Schloss Traunstein, near Gmunden, between July 23 and September 2, that only a limited number of openings still remains. American students interested in taking these summer courses, an outline of which appeared in Vol. III, No. 1 of the "Austrian Information" bulletin, are therefore requested to send their application immediately to the Institute of International Education, 2 West 45th Street, New York 19, N.Y., or to the Information Department of the Austrian Consulate General, 509 Fifth Avenue, New York 17, N.Y. The price for complete room and board, attendance at all courses and lectures, participation in all social activities, is \$165.00.

AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE RECEIVES AUSTRIAN AWARD. The American Friends Service Committee has been awarded the Honorary Medal of the City of Vienna as a token of gratitude for its outstanding relief work in Vienna during the past years. Dr. Franz Matsch, Austrian Consul General in New York, made the presentation in Philadelphia, in the name of the Mayor of Vienna, to Miss Emma Cadbury and Messrs. Melvin Luersen and George Mathues.

PHILATELIC NEWS. On the occasion of the centenary of the first Austrian postage stamp, the Central Post and Telegraph Administration of the Austrian Ministry of Communications and Nationalized Industries is presenting a postage stamp exhibition in the Academy of Fine Arts, Schillerplatz 3, Vienna I, Austria. The exhibition, which opened on May 20 and is scheduled to run until June 11, offers a survey of the artistic development of Austrian postage stamps and features specimens of all Austrian stamps issued since 1850, as well as numerous philatelic designs.

In honor of the Centenary of the Austrian Postage Stamp, on June 1, 1950, postal authorities are also issuing a commemorative stamp with a nominal value of one schilling (no surcharge value), representing the 2 Kreuzer value of the first Austrian series released on June 1, 1850. The special stamp is black and printed on ivory-toned Japanese paper.

In commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the public run made by the first Austrian automobile constructed by Siegfried Marcus, a special post office was set up on April 16, 1950, at the Post and Telegraph Museum in Vienna, where all mail and souvenir sheets were postmarked with a special cancellation picturing the first automobile and bearing the inscriptions, "Siegfried Marcus 1875" and "75 Jahre Benzin-automobil" (75 Years of the Gasoline Engine).

SPORTS NEWS FROM AUSTRIA. The Austrian National Soccer Team defeated Hungary's top eleven 5 to 3 in a highly dramatic encounter that thrilled the 65,000 soccer fans who filled the Vienna Stadium to capacity on May 14. At half time the 2 to 2 score still left the outcome in doubt. After its recent victory over Czechoslovakia, the Hungarian National Team was generally regarded in soccer circles as Europe's strongest national team. The international match was umpired by the Swedish soccer official Dahlnér.

Another international soccer encounter took place at the Vienna Stadium on May 4. "Rapid", Austria's strongest team, wrested a hard-earned 3 to 2 victory from Scotland's second best professional team, "Hibernians-Edinburgh", in the presence of 35,000 enthusiastic fans. At half time, the score was 2 to 2.

SABENA OPENS AIR SERVICE TO SALZBURG. Beginning June 16, the Belgian Air Line SABENA will introduce scheduled weekly flights from New York to Salzburg via Brussels. Planes will leave New York every Friday at 2:00 p.m. E.S.T., arriving in Brussels the following morning at 10:25 a.m. After a five-minute stop, the airliner leaves for Salzburg where it arrives at 3:05 p.m. On the return flight from Salzburg, departure time is 3:50 p.m. on Saturdays, with arrivals in Brussels at 8:35 p.m. From the Belgian capital, the airliner departs at 9:00 p.m., arriving in New York the following morning (Sunday) at 9:00 a.m. SABENA is the first air line offering direct schedule flights to the Salzburg Festival, Europe's leading summer music event.

activities, is \$165.00.

the name of the Mayor of Vienna, to Miss Mary Cadbury and others.
General General in New York, made the presentation in Philadelphia, in
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automobile" (VS Means of the Caneline Engine).
bearing the inscriptions, "Siegfried Marous 1875" and "VS Jahre Benzin-
markt mit a special cancellation picturing the first automobile and
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by the first Austrian automobile constructed by Siegfried Marous, a
in commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the public run made
here paper.

German National Soccer Team defeated Hungary's 3 to 2 in a highly dramatic encounter that thrilled the 65,000 soccer fans who filled the Vienna Stadium to capacity on May 12. The match was a real battle, with goals scored in soccer circles as national match was implied.

At half time, the score was 2 to 2. "Hibernians-Birmingham", in the presence of 35,000 enthusiastic fans, earned a 2 to 2 victory from Scotland's second best professional team. Stadium on May 4, 1954, Hibernians' strongest team, wrestled a hard-fought place at the Vienna

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a.m. After a five-minute stop, the airliner leaves for Salzburg, where
it arrives at 12:15 p.m. On the return flight from Salzburg, the
airline departs at 9:00 p.m., with arrivals in Brussels at 11:00 p.m.
and in New York at 1:00 p.m. On Saturdays, the airliner departs at 9:00 p.m.
from the Belgian capital, and arrives in New York at 11:00 a.m.
First air line offering direct schedule flight to the Salzburg
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